

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1 (original). A method for analyzing the energy content of an electrical signal for detecting voice, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) defining a first voltage threshold and a second voltage threshold, wherein the first threshold is greater than the second threshold;

(b) comparing the signal with the first voltage threshold and the second voltage threshold to produce a digital number representative of the signal;

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) to produce a plurality of numbers;

(d) converting the plurality of numbers into a first sum; and

(e) comparing the first sum to a third threshold, wherein a sum exceeding the third threshold is indicative of a voice signal.

2 (original). The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said converting step includes the steps of:

weighting each number representative of a signal; and

summing the weighted numbers.

3 (original). The method as set forth in claim 2 wherein larger numbers receive greater weight than smaller numbers to produce a quasi-RMS calculation.

4 (original). The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including the steps of:

counting the number of numbers that exceed the first threshold;

comparing the number to a fourth threshold; and

indicating a voice signal when the first sum exceeds the third threshold and the number exceeds the fourth threshold.

5 (original). The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including the steps of:

counting the number of numbers that exceed the first threshold;

comparing the number to a fourth threshold; and

increasing the first threshold when the number is greater than the fourth threshold.

6 (original). The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including the steps of:

counting the number of numbers that are less than the second threshold;
comparing the number to a fourth threshold; and
decreasing the second threshold when the number is less than the fourth threshold.

7 (original). The method as set forth in claim 6 and further including the step of:
not counting the number of numbers that are less than the second threshold while the first sum exceeds the third threshold.

8 (presently amended). A method for analyzing the energy content of an analog electrical signal, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) defining a first voltage threshold and a second voltage threshold, wherein the first threshold is greater than the second threshold;
(b) comparing the analog electrical signal with the first voltage threshold and the second voltage threshold to produce a digital number representative of the signal;
(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) to produce a plurality of numbers;
(d) converting the plurality of numbers into a sum.

9 (original). The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said converting step includes the steps of:

weighting each number representative of a signal; and
summing the weighted numbers.

10 (original). The method as set forth in claim 9 wherein larger numbers receive greater weight than smaller numbers to produce a quasi-RMS calculation.